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Message Text

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46/66
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 SS-20 CPR-02 PER-05 SSC-01

INR-10 PRS-01 DRC-01 RSC-01 /075 W
---------- 122042
R 151542Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6938
AUSMISSION IAEA VIENNA 549
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
USINT DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

IAEA VIENNA FOR AMBASSADOR PORTER

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR US LE
SUBJ: AMBASSADOR PRESENT HIS CREDENTIALS

1. IN SHORT, FORMAL CEREMONY THIS MORING AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, I PRESENTED MY CREDENTIALS TO PRES FRENGIE. IN SO DOING, I CONVEYED TO HIM WARMEST GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FROM PRES NIXON, ANB BUFFUM AND OUR COUNTRYMEN-- EXPECIALLY THOSE OF LEBANESE DESCENT. SAID I WOULD SEEK TO EXPLORE AND DEVELOP EVERY MEANS FOR STRENGTHENING LEBANESE-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP, AND REAFFIRMED IMPORTANCE WHICH USG ATTACHES TO LEBANON'S CONTINUED INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. I ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO HAPPY MOMENTUM WHICH HAS DEVELOPED TOWARD PEACE IN ME AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT BY WORKING TOGETHER WE COULD ENSURE THAT ASPIRATIONS OF LEBANESE PEOPLE -- AND ALL PEOPLES OF ME -- FOR A BETTER, MORE REWARDING FUTURE MIGHT
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AT LAST BE REALIZED.

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2. IN REPLY, PRES FRANGIE THANKED ME FOR MY REMARKS
SPOKE OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES' MUTUAL BELIEF IN TRUTH
AND FREEDOM, AND EXPRESSED SORROW THAT THOSE PRINCIPLES
HAVE SO OFTEN BEEN VIOLATED IN RECENT ME HISTORY. HE
ASKED ME CONVEY HIS TANKS AND FRIENDLY GREETINGS TO
PRES NIXON AND AMERICAN PEOPLE AND SAID GOL WOULD
COOPERATE IN CONSOLIDATING US-LEBANESE RELATIONS FURTHER.

3. FULL TEXTS OF ABOVE REMARKS BEING REPORTED TO DEPT VIA
AIRGRAM.

4. DURING SUBSEQUENT INFORMAL 15 MINUTE CONVERSATION PRESIDENT
WAS MOST CORDIAL. SPOKE WARMLY OF AMBASSADORS PORTER AND
BUFFUM, CONCLUDING WITH FRENCH SAYING "NEVER TWO
WITHOUT THREE". NOTING MY CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM RE REKENT
ME DEVELOPMENTS, HE SHOOK HIS HEAD, POINTING OUT THAT
LEBANON HAS HAD TO BE OPTIMISTIC NOW FOR NEARLY 25
YEARS. NEVERTHELESS, PRESIDENT WAS MOST FRIENDLY AND
CONCLUDED THAT HE THOGHT MY JOB WOULD BE EASY, DUE
TO STRONG BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING
THAT HAVE ALWAYS EXISTED BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.
GODLEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BEIRUT03057
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740341/aaaabmhy.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <02 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
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30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR PRESENT HIS CREDENTIALS
TAGS: PFOR, US, LE, (GODLEY, G MCMURTRIE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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